Atty. Dkt. No. 084335/0134

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Koji Kigawa et al.

Entitled:

METHOD FOR PREPARING HIGH PERFORMANCE RECA-

LIKE RECOMBINASE/SINGLE-STRANDED NUCLEIC ACID PROBE COMPLEX AND UTILIZATION THEREOF

Serial No.

Unassigned

Filing Date

April 2, 2001

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application, Applicant's respectfully requests that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

## In the Claims:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c) (3), please substitute for pending claims 4, 8-10, 13, 15-18 and 21 with the following clean version of the claims. The changes to these claims are shown explicitly in the attached "Marked Up Version of Claims."

- 4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the single-stranded nucleic acid probe sample is a mixture of the homologous probe and at least one type of heterologous probe.
- 8. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the RecA-like recombinase has a label or a ligand.
- 9. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the homologous probe has a label or a ligand.

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